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"good old political freebooter" (p. 86); Roosevelt was not "reappointed" to the Civil Service Commission by Cleveland, since his office had an indeterminate term and needed no reappointment (p. 96); nor was Cleveland President in 1892; the mounted part of the Rough Riders regiment was not at Las Guasimas (p. 125); it was Kettle Hill, not San Juan, that the regiment captured on July 1, 1898 (p. 126); McKinley did not die with his tariff views unrevised and unquestioned (p. 169) but rather with a restatement fresh from his lips in his Buffalo speech of September 5, 1901; if Lord Alverstone's decision on the Alaska boundary was his own, it is misleading to speak as though Roosevelt's "brusque way" terminated the dispute (p. 177); Senator Hanna did not bag "a good many delegates" in 1904, and died not in March, but on February 15 (p. 306, 307); Judge Parker did not explicitly charge blackmail against Mr. Cortelyou (p. 307), but insinuated the opportunity for it; Joseph G. Cannon began his career in Congress in 1873, not 1863 (p. 343); Roosevelt's earnest canvass for Stimson for governor in 1910 is inaptly described as "no active part in politics" (p. 347); the decision to run again, which Colonel Roosevelt talked over with Mr. Thayer and Judge Grant on February 25, 1912 (p. 351), had already been reached, since it is printed with a date line of February 24. It is worth noting that Colonel Roosevelt did not fully share Mr. Thayer's dislike for the Payne-Aldrich tariff (p. 340), since he gave it at least a qualified approval. After the "'Once-a-week-to-Falmouth' order" (p. 430) President Wilson did not wait for the "interchange of two or three more notes", but broke off relations with Germany on February 3, 1917; what occurred on April 6 was the declaration of a state of war.

The character of Colonel Roosevelt is convincingly presented here; but Mr. Thayer adds little to our knowledge of his life.

FREDERIC L. PAXSON.

Fighting Germany's Spies. By FRENCH STROTHER. (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company. 1918. Pp. xiv, 275.)

The German Secret Service in America. By JOHN PRICE JONES and PAUL MERRICK HOLLISTER. (Boston: Small, Maynard and Company. 1918. Pp. xiv, 340.)

Throttled! The Detection of the German and Anarchist Bomb Plotters. By Inspector THOMAS J. TUNNEY . . . of the New York Police Department, as told to Paul Merrick Hollister. (Boston: Small, Maynard and Company. 1919. Pp. xviii, 277.)

THESE volumes, three variations on the same general theme, were written for the obvious purpose of helping to satisfy wide-spread popular curiosity concerning the methods and practices of German spies in America during the period of the Great War. No one interested in the subject should ignore an earlier book by Mr. John Price Jones (at the time of writing it on the staff of the *New York Sun*), entitled *America En-*

tangled (1917), otherwise known in an English edition as *The German Spy in America*, and introduced by a letter to the author from Theodore Roosevelt and a brief foreword by Roger B. Wood, formerly assistant United States district attorney in New York. To-day, one year since the signing of the armistice, the theme of all these books has lost its hold upon popular attention. Now that the danger has passed, the public is no longer interested in the fate of such scoundrels as Franz von Rintelen or Robert Fay—it is enough to know that they have been punished. When in April, 1918, Mr. Strother first told the story of Werner Horn's trip under the direction of Captain Franz von Papen from New York City to Vanceboro, Maine, for the purpose of blowing up the railway bridge over the St. Croix River (*World's Work*, XXXV. 652-663), he gained the close attention of thousands of readers. The news item which told several days ago of Horn's condemnation by a Canadian court to imprisonment for a term of ten years, aroused hardly a word of comment.

Mr. French Strother's book is based upon a series of seven articles which appeared, very fully illustrated, in the *World's Work*, March-September, 1918. The text of the book, compared to the magazine narrative, has been slightly abbreviated; the illustrations in the book are not so numerous or so well executed. A concluding chapter, Dr. Scheele, Chemical Spy, is new—the story of this remarkable man would easily make a book of fair dimensions. Mr. Strother's articles, it may be recalled, took the place of a series which John R. Rathom, editor of the *Providence Journal*, was to have contributed under the general title *Germany's Plots Exposed*. A single opening article Mr. Rathom printed, "The German Spy System from the Inside" (*World's Work*, February, 1918); the reasons why the projected series stopped abruptly have never been disclosed. Disappointed subscribers, however, soon had reason to be grateful to Mr. Strother's skill as a story-teller. Indeed, on the question of authenticity they were reassured, for the author could say openly that his narrative was based on materials in the confidential files of the bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice—a bureau then under the direction of Mr. A. Bruce Bielaski as chief.

Mr. Strother's accounts of such careers as those of Werner Horn, of Captain Max Thierickens (recently deported), of Robert Fay, and of Von Rintelen in his relations to David Lamar, the "Wolf of Wall Street", are discreet but sufficiently detailed to afford any reader an insight into German methods of espionage as directed by high German authorities in Washington or in Berlin. Chapter VII., German Codes and Ciphers, opens the subject of a characteristic and peculiarly difficult series of problems that were partially solved by ingenious experts in the federal service. The facts as to the origin, organization, and workings of the American Protective League have nowhere been so directly or skillfully set forth as in chapter IX.

Mr. Strother's book was written rapidly for the purpose of meeting an editorial emergency and supplying a public demand. While perhaps

more authoritative, it is rather less matured than the Jones-Hollister volume. The latter book rests upon careful use of court records, police reports, and miscellaneous materials of a quasi-official nature. To such sources Mr. Jones and his colleague devoted rather more than a year of study. They show remarkable ability in analyzing various aspects of a troublesome theme. I venture the opinion that in their chapter entitled False Passports (ch. VII., pp. 83-99), they give a statement nearer the truth than does Mr. Strother (ch. I., pp. 2 ff.). The extraordinary story of the so-called Hindu conspiracy—reaching a dramatic climax at the conclusion of the trial in San Francisco in April, 1918—has been admirably summarized (*cf.* Strother, pp. 223 ff.). The Tunney-Hollister book is of distinctly slighter texture than the other two volumes. But one will go far before coming upon a more striking story of skillful detective work than that revealed in chapter III. under the caption *Playing with Fire*. Chapter VIII. is concerned with the pathetic story of Erich Muenther.

No one of the volumes under consideration is animated by any very serious purpose. They are written in brisk, colloquial style. They all represent strikingly good journalistic methods employed to arouse a public that was slow to anger and, until the sinking of the *Lusitania* on May 7, 1915, notably inert. Subtle diplomats at Washington, backed by a ruthless and heartless general staff in Germany, were guilty of attempting to organize a system of espionage, world-wide in extent, for the purpose of dominating civilization. All the writers are inclined to overestimate German cleverness and the functioning of German administration in underhanded designs. The truth appears to have been that Germany worked in this, as in other matters, often at cross-purposes; and that from early in 1915 its well-laid schemes went awry owing to the skill of federal and local police authorities. Much more attention could have been given by all these authors to the remarkable functioning and operation of the federal bureau of investigation, for to that organization more than to any other single factor was the downfall of the German spy system in the United States due. Unlikely as it is that the vast collections of materials now in the custody of the Department of Justice will soon be made public, the story of the bureau of investigation, first organized in June, 1908, should be told by some one in the government service familiar with all its various details. Materials in its files, industriously gathered over the years from 1914 to 1918, would afford the basis for a very remarkable series of books.

HENRY BARRETT LEARNED.

Spain's Declining Power in South America, 1730-1806. By BERNARD MOSES. (Berkeley: University of California Press. 1919. Pp. xx, 440. \$4.00.)

SUGGESTIVE introductory pages in this volume describe the environment of the Spanish colonists in South America. Its first chapter dis-